

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for a system including a plurality of encoders each for receiving a first signal and encoding to generate a respective second signal for sending to a respective subscriber, the method comprising:

receiving, in each encoder, the first signal from a first source, while testing a signal path between a second source and the encoders, the first source on a first assembly, the second source on a second assembly, and each encoder on a respective third assembly;

while each encoder is receiving the first signal from the first source:

receiving, in each encoder, a third signal from the second source;

generating, from each encoder, a fourth signal based on the third signal, the fourth signal being a redundancy signal; and

receiving and examining the fourth signal at the second source; and

subsequently receiving the first signal from the second source.